



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4

SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

Mr. Phil West, Plant Manager  
Palmetto Vermiculite, Inc.  
P.O. Box 178  
13101 Highway 221  
Woodruff, South Carolina 329388

December 06, 2011

SUBJECT: Sampling Results for Property at 13101 Highway 221

Dear Mr. West:

During the Winter of 2009, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted sampling at the Palmetto Vermiculite Co. property at 13101 Highway 221, Woodruff, South Carolina. The purpose of the sampling was to determine whether contamination was present that may be related to the W. R. Grace vermiculite mine in Libby, Montana and to evaluate if any further response actions are necessary to protect public health and the environment. The analytical results from the samples that EPA collected from your property are enclosed.

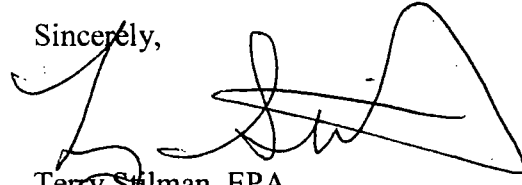
Samples were collected in and around the property, including bulk sampling and activity based sampling for asbestos. Vermiculite associated with the W. R. Grace mine in Libby, Montana is known to contain asbestos contamination.

The results are provided in the enclosed removal assessment report. EPA compares the results detected in each sample to applicable health-based benchmarks. Region 4's website provides additional information regarding sampling benchmarks and detection levels:  
[www.epa.gov/region4/waste/ots/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/ots/index.html).



EPA has evaluated the sampling results and has determined that while asbestos was detected inside the Palmetto Vermiculite Co. facility building which is equal to or greater than EPA's benchmark for excess cancer risk, it is below the Occupational, Safety and Health Administration's standards for workplaces. No asbestos was detected outside of the active work space. Since the Palmetto Vermiculite Co. is already subject to the requirements of OSHA, no further action by EPA is warranted at this time. If you have any questions or concerns related to EPA's assessment, please feel free to contact me at 404-562-08748.

Sincerely,



Terry Silman, EPA  
On-Scene Coordinator

Enclosure